

FIG. 1

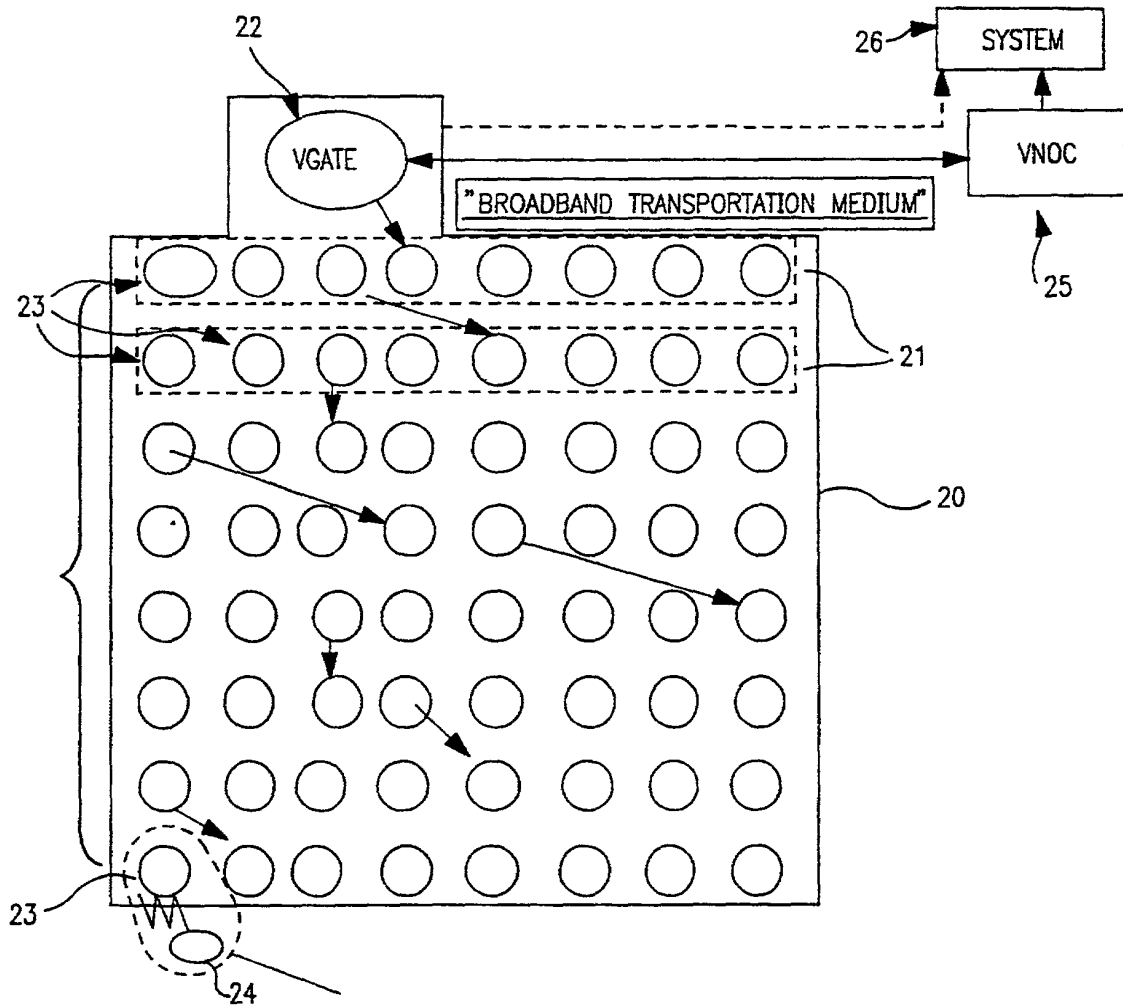


FIG. 2

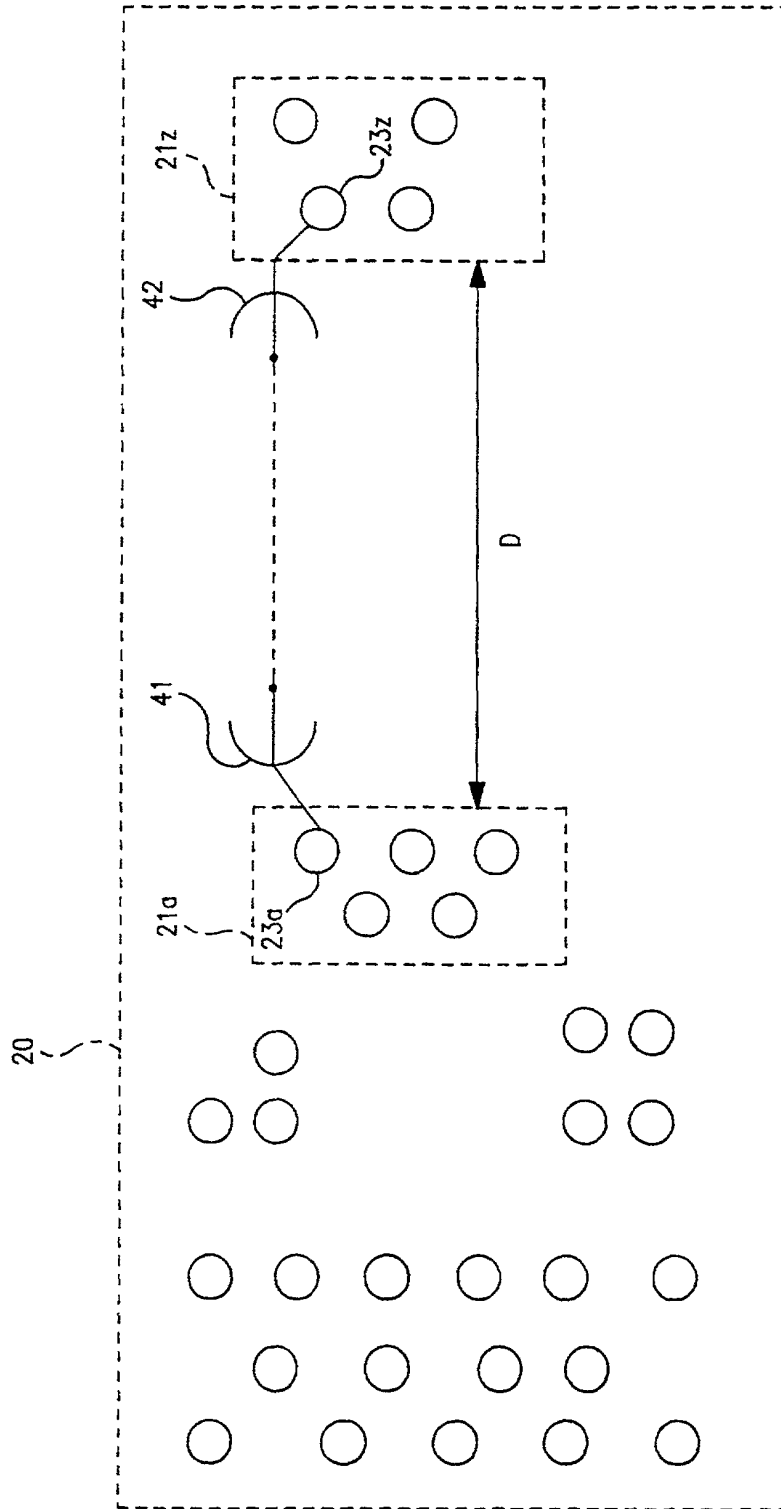
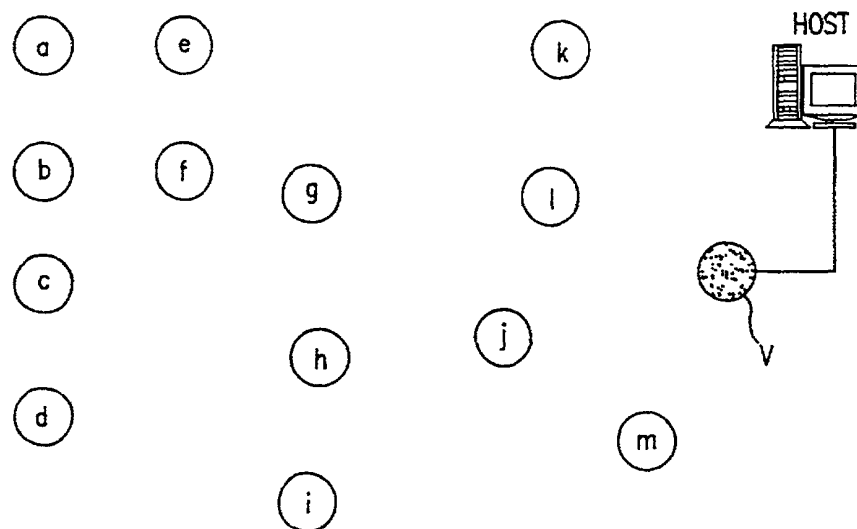


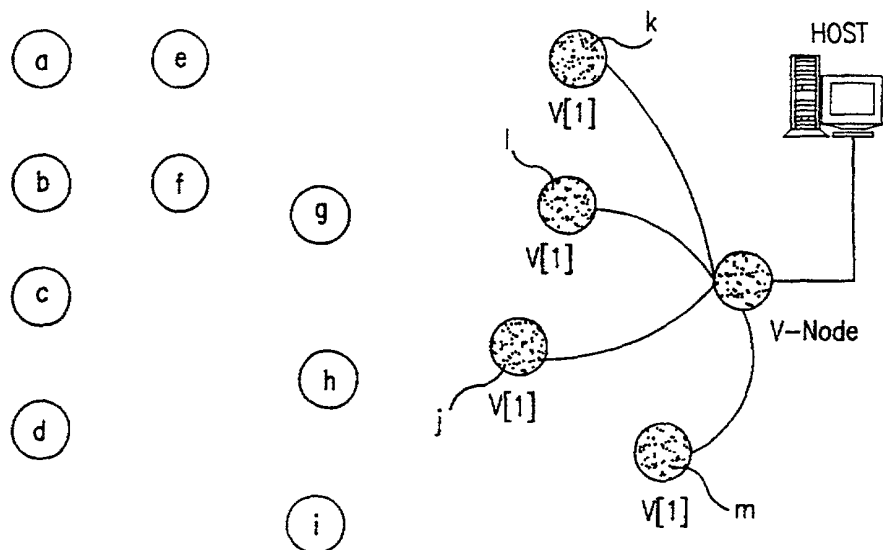
FIG. 4



STEP 1:

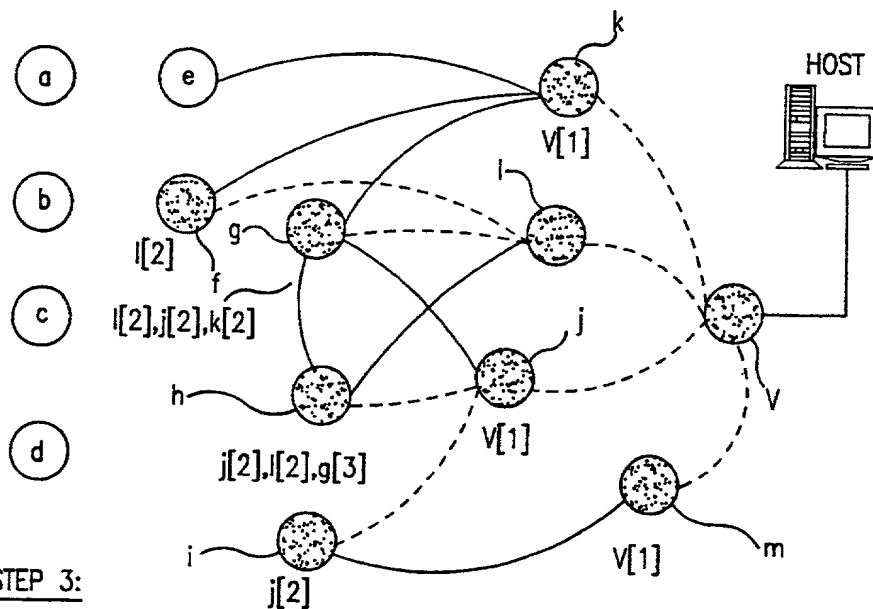
a to m are broadcasting request message after pseudo-random delays. V is broadcasting message identifying itself as a VGATE.

FIG. 5

STEP 2:

a to i are still broadcasting request message after pseudo-random delays.
 j, k, l and m have route to VGATE with metric 0 configured.
 V is broadcasting message identifying itself as a VGATE.

FIG. 6

**STEP 3:**

a to d are still broadcasting request message after pseudo-random delays.
 e has a route to the VGATE, but the metric for it is too high.
 f, g, h, i have multiple routes (based on metric grayed ones are discarded).
 (primary gateways are sent acknowledgement messages)

V is broadcasting messages identifying itself as a VGATE.

FIG. 7

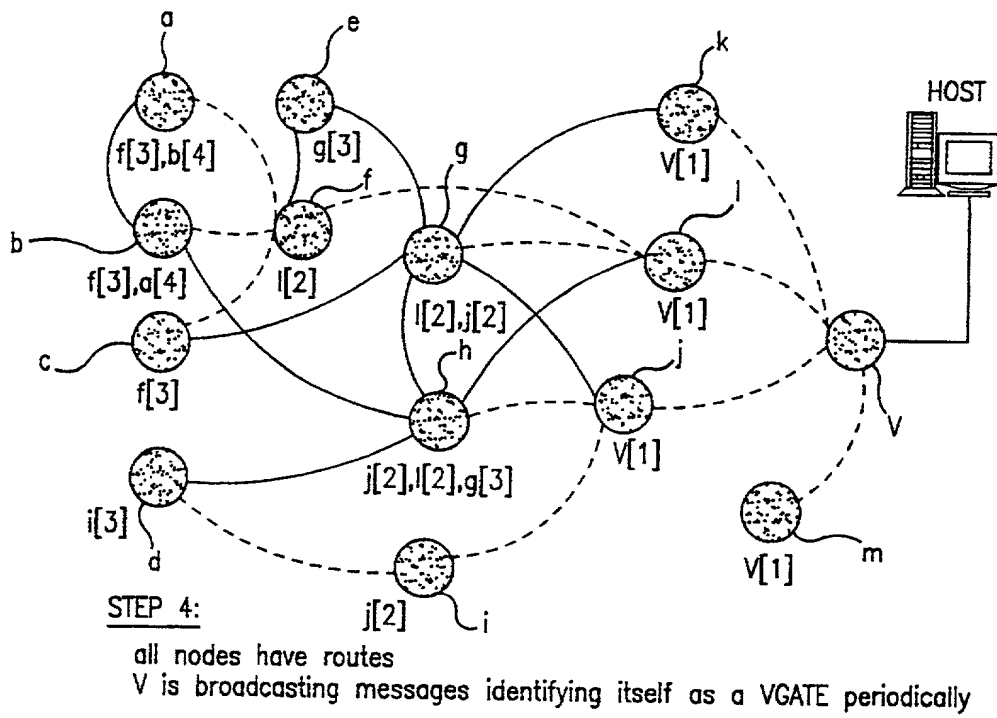
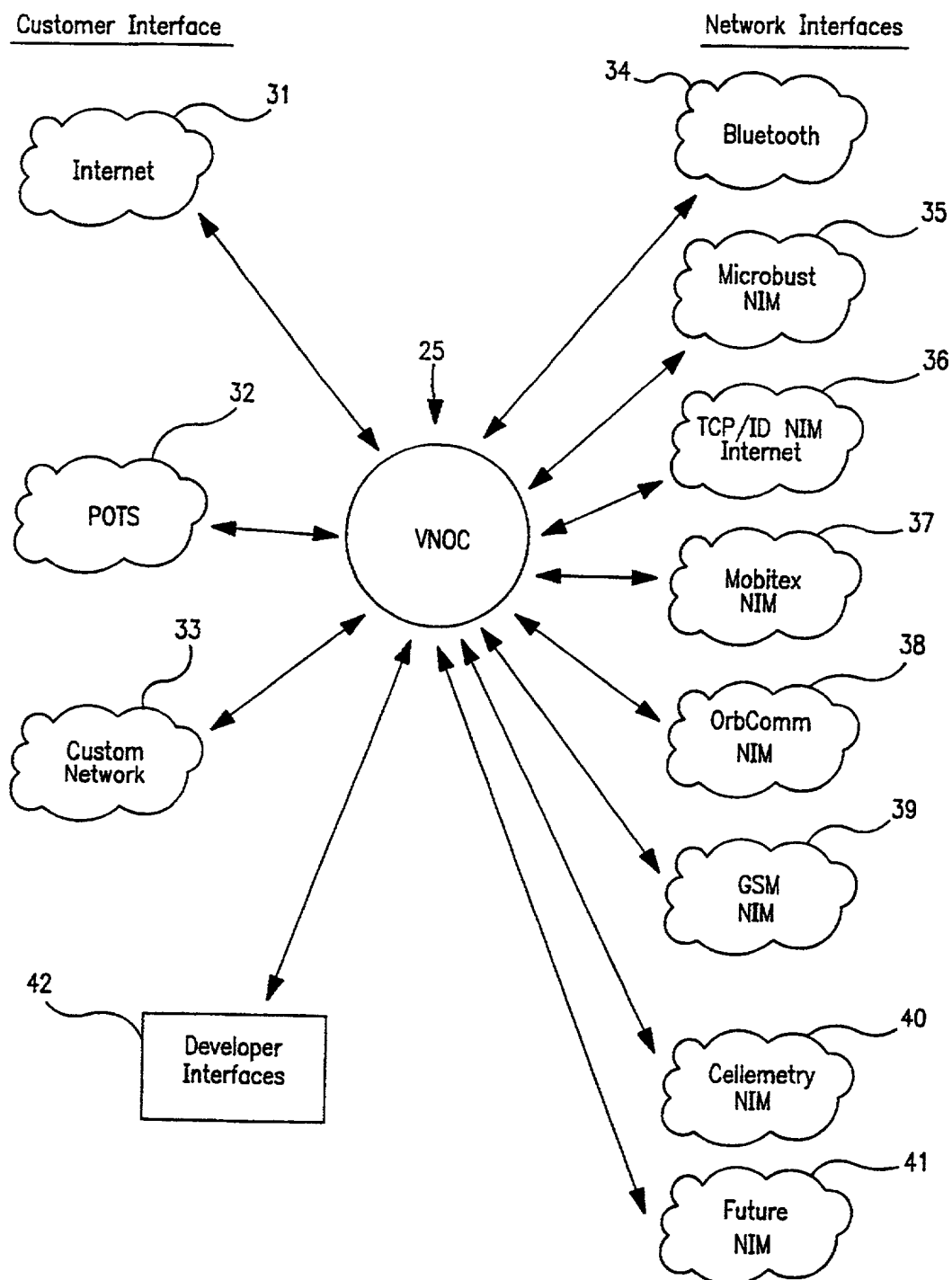


FIG. 8



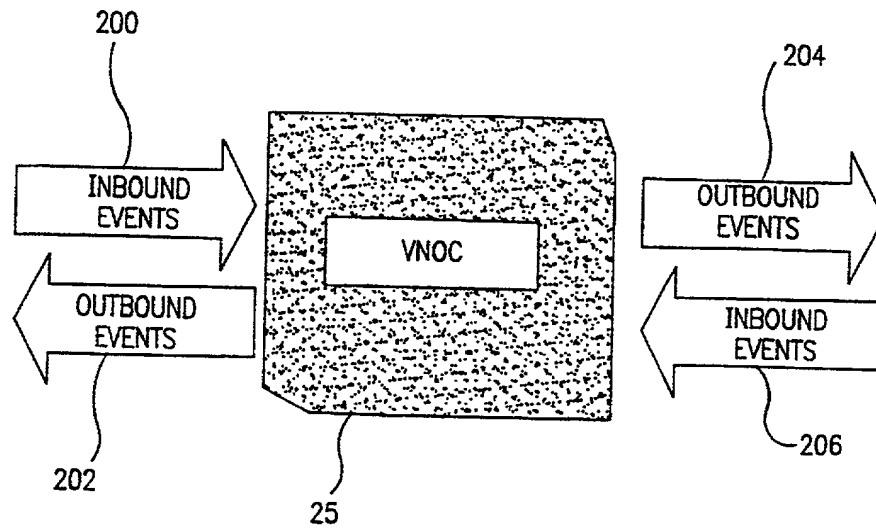


FIG. 10

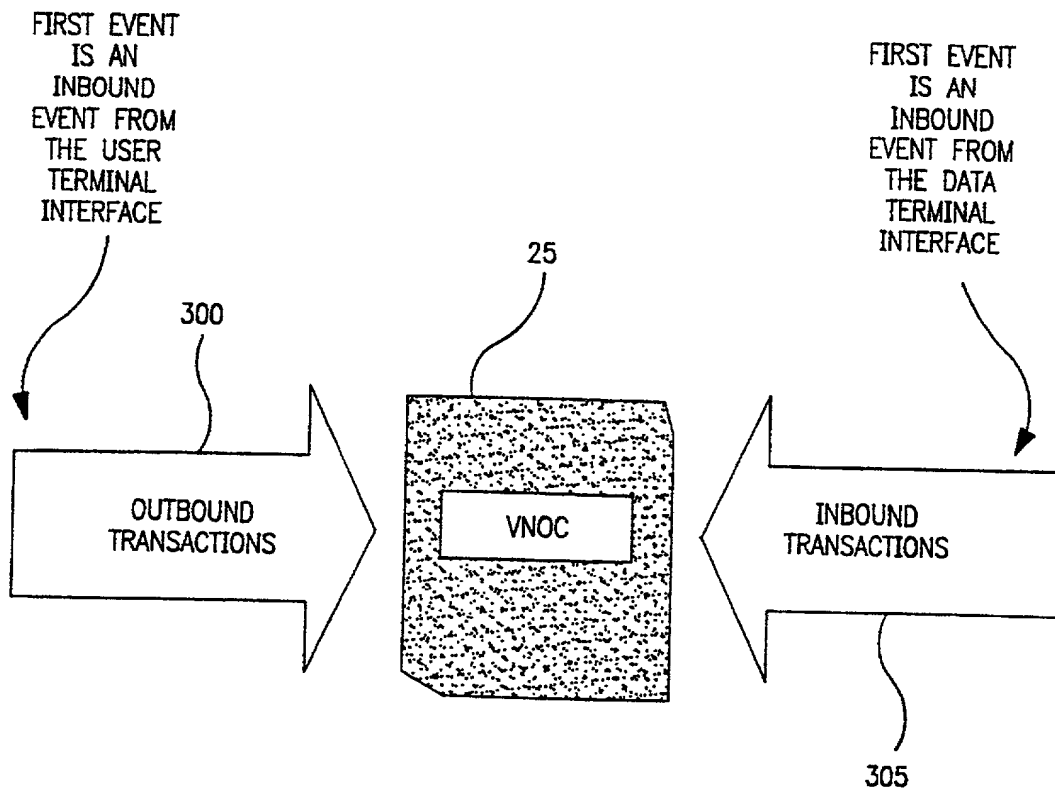


FIG. 11

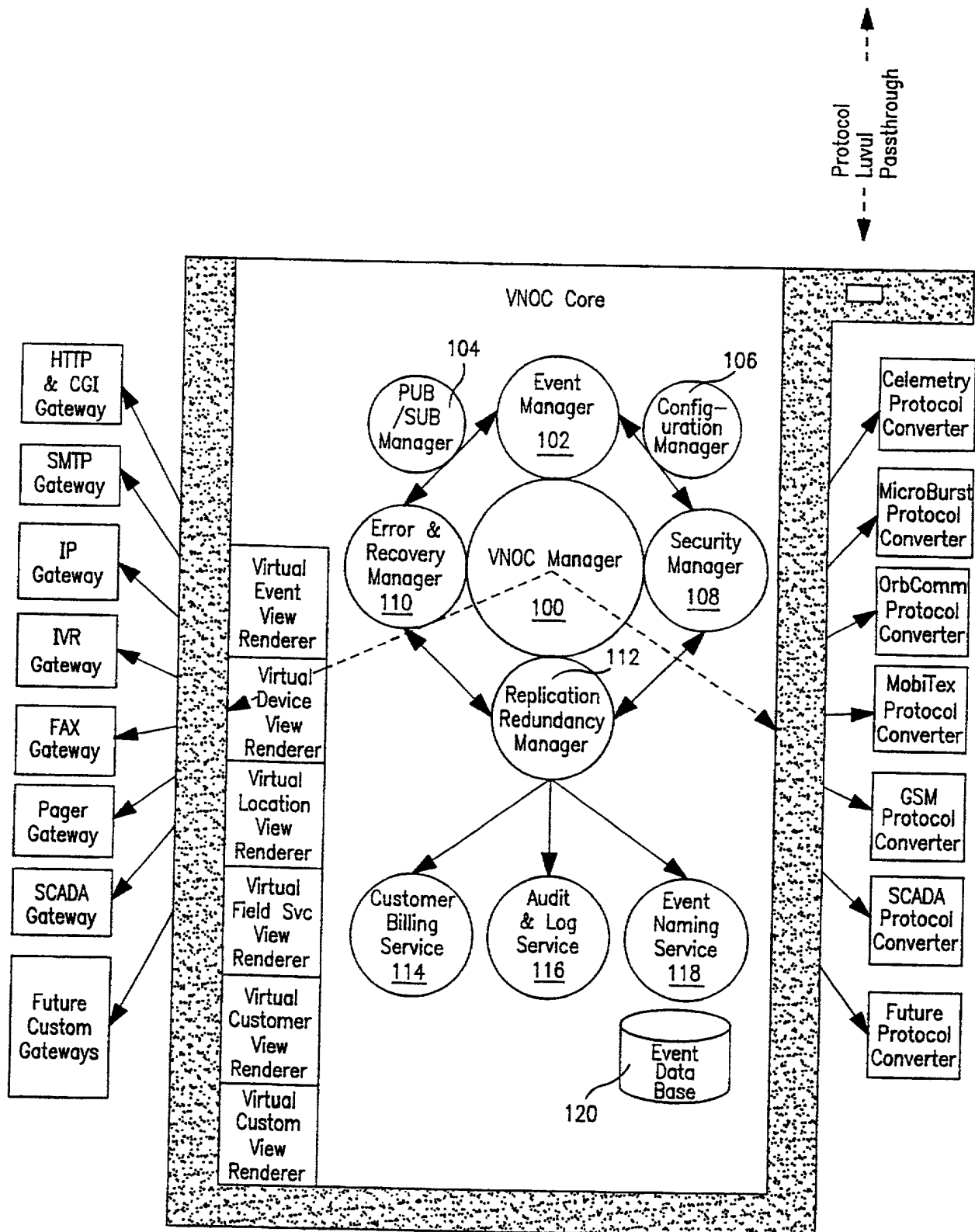


FIG. 12

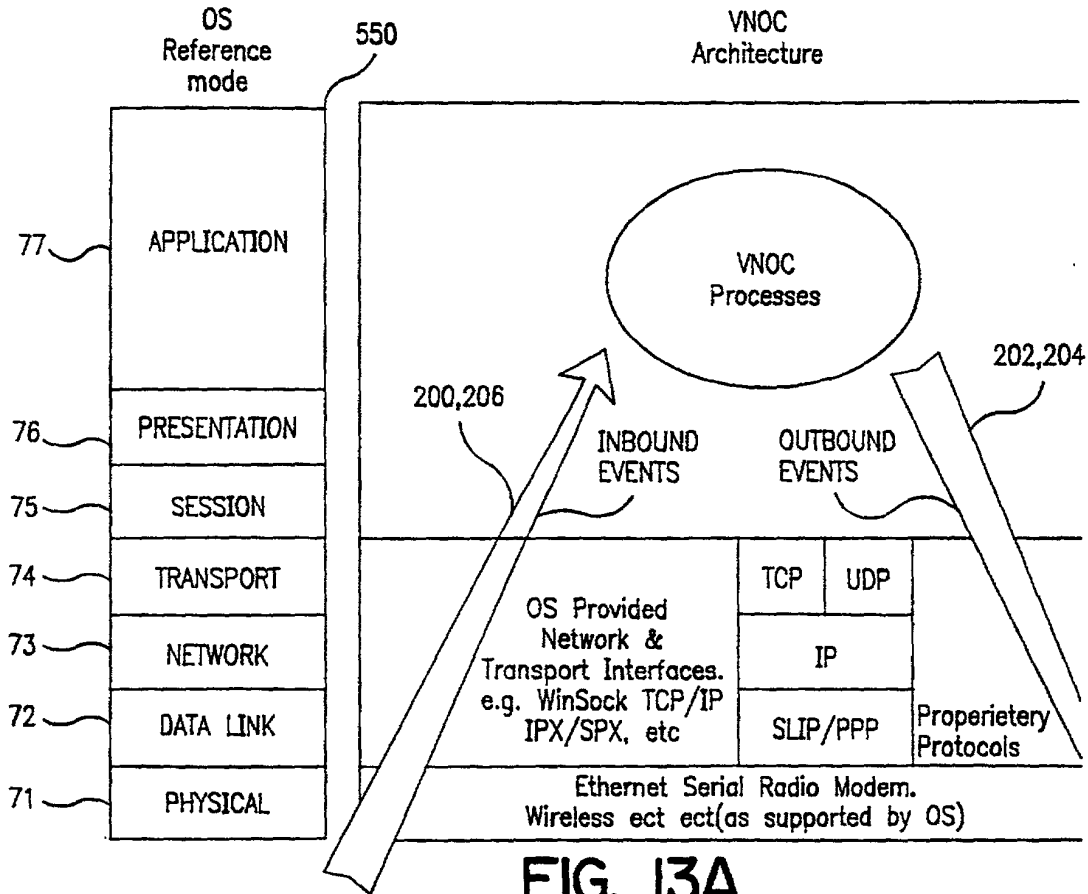


FIG. 13A

Network architecture based on the OSI model

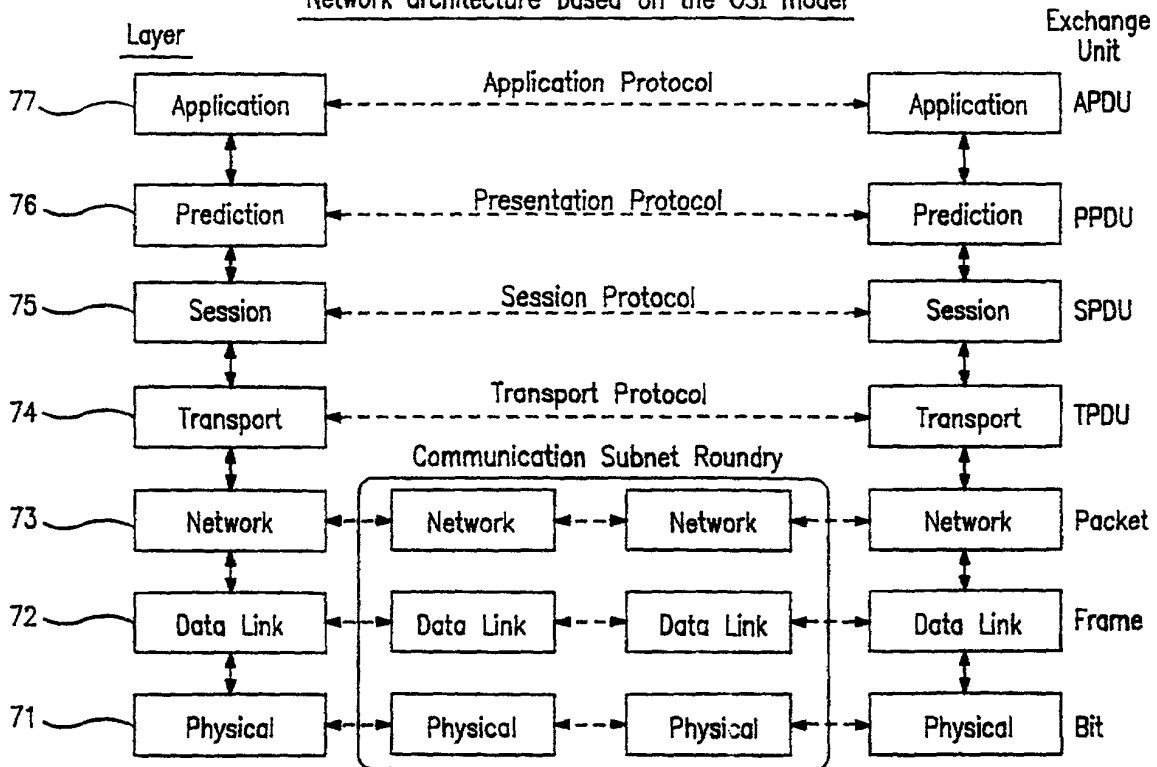


FIG. 13B

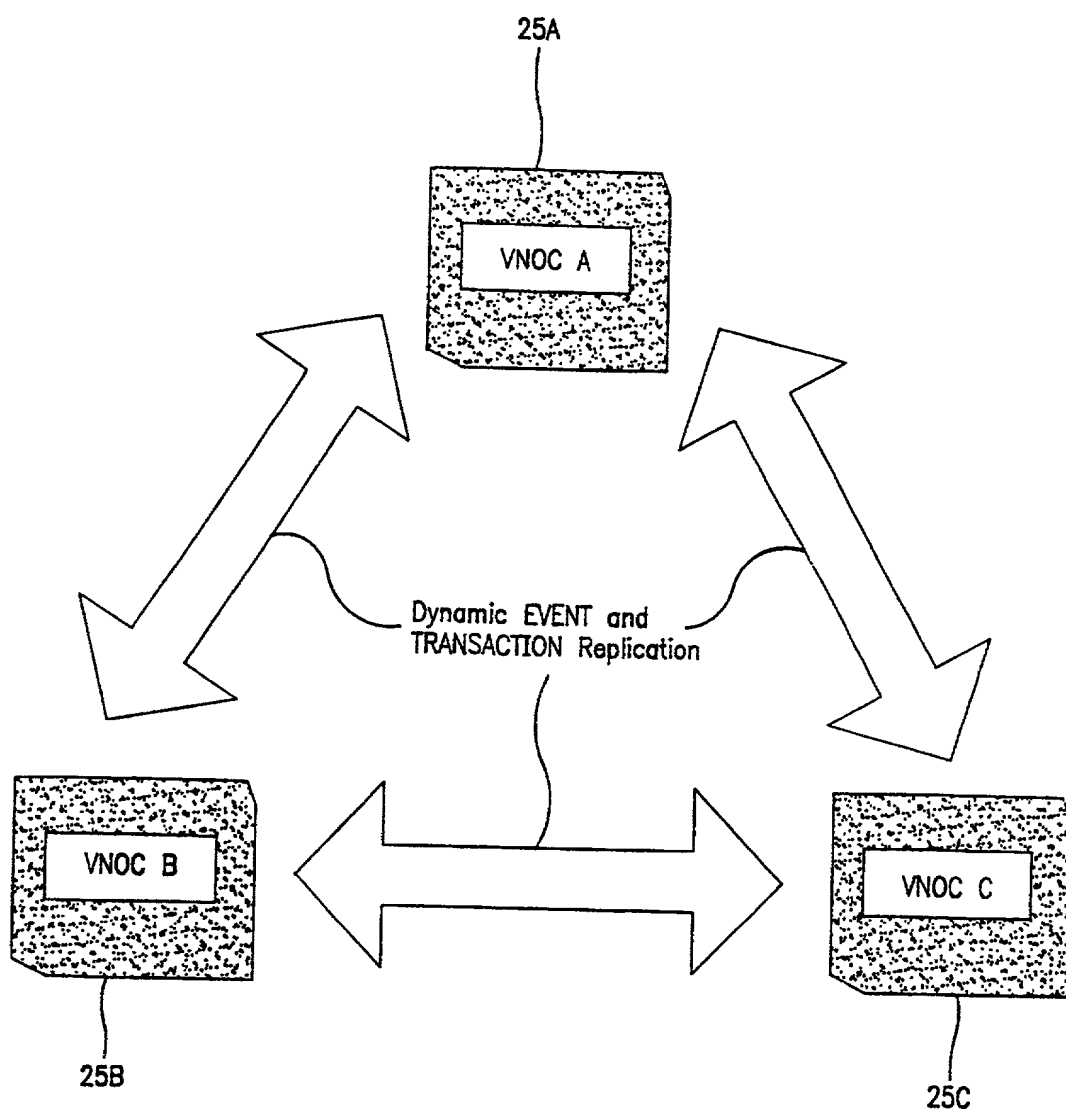


FIG. 14